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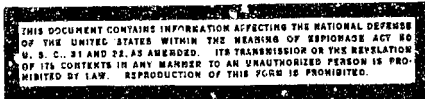
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SOURCE Wen-hui Pao.TO RE-VAMP KUANG-CHOU EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

On 14 December, 600 representatives of 100 schools in Kuang-chou met to consider changes made imperative by the recent political changes. Li Ming of the Education Bureau presided and stressed the need of adapting the educational system to the new conditions. He also discussed: (1) the government's position as to private and middle schools; (2) creating a new educational atmosphere; (3) new organization and structure of middle schools; (4) new courses and methods of teaching; (5) tuition in private schools; (6) overhauling of the grading system; (7) clearing out of special agents; and (8) improving faculty-student relations.

In his 3-hour exposition, Li emphasized that the old feudal imperialist era had decisively terminated and the people now controlled their own destiny. He said: "A new China awaits economic and cultural reconstruction, and for this task we are responsible. Yet we are products of the old order, and must by study and observation adapt ourselves to the new state of things, to serve the people through education.

"The government has an over-all plan to protect all schools, making no distinction between public or private institutions. But private schools must register anew with the new government. Arrangements for this are now being made.

"The new system will do away with moral training, civics, and military training. Moral training was a method of control used by reactionaries.

"Each school shall be organized under an administrative committee, which shall actually be in control and not merely a form as heretofore. This committee shall consist of the president, dean, manager, and representatives of the faculty and students. The president will be the chairman. The number on the committee will vary with the size of the school. Faculty and students shall have equal representation. Democratic centralization shall be the procedure; but an appeal may be taken to the educational authorities.

"A middle school shall have a president, a dean's officer, and a business office. The administrative group shall meet once a month, oftener if required; smaller units more frequently.

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"To prevent financial difficulties, a committee of three teachers and two students shall be organized, to which the president and deans may not belong. It shall meet monthly to audit the school accounts.

"In place of the abolished courses, political studies shall be substituted. Until textbooks are prepared, newspapers and revolutionary documents shall be used as study material. In natural science courses, the existing texts shall be used for the present. Language and history texts will remain, with all reactionary teachings taken out. Colloquial rather than literary forms shall be taught.

"We must insist on freedom of religion. In church schools, the bible must not be a required subject, nor may students be compelled to accept a religion.

"The problem of tuition is a greater one in private than in public schools. Tuitions are larger in church schools, and not used for the school's benefit, but mostly for the maintenance of the principal. Such profiteering must no longer be allowed. No schedule of tuitions has yet been fixed by the government."

Li advocated a lenient policy toward the few special agents uncovered by the authorities who had admitted the error of their ways, but severe punishment for the recalcitrant.

Finally, Li urged that each private school send several of its staff to the South China University for training, with a view to teaching political subjects on their return.

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